Attorney Docket No. <u>SOM919990007US1</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

Applicant(s): J.S. Lipscomb et al.
Docket No.: SOM919990007US1
Serial No.: 09/444,317
Filing Date: November 22, 1999
Group: 2674
Examiner: Francis N. Nguyen

Title: System and Method for Reconciling Multiple Inputs

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action dated December 3, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

Claims 17-19 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claims 1, 2, 21, 23 and 24 have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of reconciling multiple inputs to a processor, comprising:

receiving a plurality of inputs at a processor; and

providing an output from the processor to an interface, the output based on the plurality of inputs, wherein the output has a degraded response when more than one of the plurality of inputs is asserted simultaneously and an increased response when one of the plurality of inputs is asserted significantly more than the other inputs.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said plurality of inputs are represented by an input vector in a coordinate space, and the output response is a maximum when the vector lies along